



Aruba's ONLY English newspaper

Next abortion battles may be among states with clashing laws



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A sign reading "My body, my choice," is taped to a hanger taped to a streetlight in front of the Idaho state Capitol Building in Boise, Idaho, May 3, 2022.

Associated Press

Aruba Dominates the First Annual ABC Beach Tennis Cup



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Easter on Aruba: A tradition of camping



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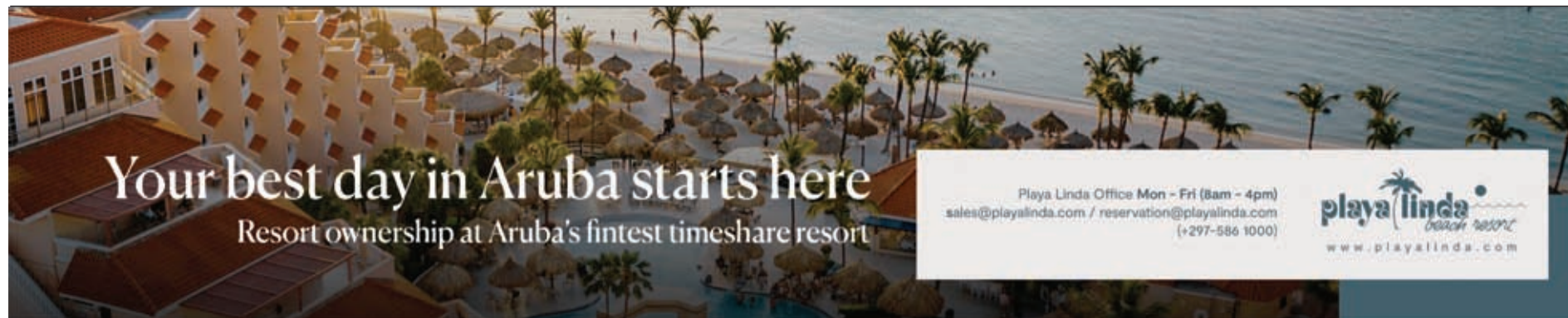
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Leaked documents a 'very serious' risk to security: Pentagon

By **TARA COPP** and **LOLITA C. BALDOR**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The online leaks of scores of highly classified documents about the Ukraine war present a "very serious" risk to national security, and senior leaders are quickly taking steps to mitigate the damage, a top Pentagon spokesman said Monday. And as the public airing of the data sends shock-

waves across the U.S. government, the White House said there are concerns there could be additional leaks.

Chris Meagher, assistant to the secretary of defense for public affairs, told reporters that Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin first became aware on Thursday that a number of classified briefing slides detailing the U.S. military efforts in the Ukraine war and intelligence in-

volving other nations were leaked.

In the days since, Austin has reached out to allies, held daily meetings to assess the damage and set up a group not only to assess the scope of the information lost but review who has access to those briefings. The department is looking closely at "how this type of information is distributed and to whom," Meagher said.



A local resident runs past the damaged houses in Bakhmut, the site of heavy battles with Russian troops in the Donetsk region, Ukraine, Sunday, Apr. 9, 2023.

Associated Press

A defense official who spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive matters said the Pentagon has now taken steps to reduce the number of people who have access to those briefings. The official said the Pentagon regularly reviews access lists to weigh who has a need to know and have access to classified material.

At the White House, National Security Council spokesman John Kirby was asked if the U.S. was bracing for more online releases.

"The truth and the honest answer to your question is: We don't know," he said. "And is that a matter of concern to us? You're darn right it is."

Kirby said at this point, "we don't know who's behind this, we don't know what the motive is."

And he said as U.S. authorities go through the documents that were posted online, they are still trying to determine their validity, but have found that at least some of the papers "have been doctored."

He and others would not go into detail, but at least one of the documents shows estimates of Russian troops deaths in the Ukraine war

that are significantly lower than numbers publicly stated by U.S. officials. Under a section titled "Total Assessed Losses," one document lists 16,000-17,500 Russian casualties and up to 71,000 Ukrainian casualties. Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said publicly last November that Russia has lost "well over" 100,000 soldiers, and Ukraine had lost about that many also. And those estimates have continued to climb in recent months, although officials have stopped providing more exact numbers.

At the State Department, spokesman Vedant Patel told reporters Monday that U.S. officials "are engaging with allies and partners at high levels over this, including to reassure them of our commitment to safeguarding intelligence and the fidelity of securing our partnerships."

The U.S. officials declined to provide any specifics, including about the expanse of the release, how it happened and to which country leaders the U.S. has spoken. Patel added that there is "no question" the documents' release present a risk to national security. □

Next abortion battles may be among states with clashing laws

From Front

By **GEOFF MULVIHILL and JOHN HANNA**

Associated Press

Abortion is banned in Idaho at all stages of pregnancy, but the governor on Wednesday signed another law making it illegal to provide help within the state's boundaries to minors seeking an abortion without parental consent. The new law is obviously aimed at abortions obtained in other states, but it's written to criminalize in-state behavior leading to the out-of-state procedure — a clear nod to the uncertainty surrounding efforts by lawmakers in at least half a dozen states to extend their influence outside their borders when it comes to abortion law.

At the same time, Democrat-controlled states are advancing and adopting laws and executive orders intended to shield their residents against civil lawsuits and criminal investigations related to providing abortions for women from states where there are bans.

But there is no legal precedent giving good guidance about whether states can influence their residents getting abortions outside their borders.

"If red states pass laws saying, 'We can go after people for X, Y and Z,'

and blue states say, 'You can't,' we're in uncharted territory," said Mary Ziegler, a legal historian at the University of California, Davis School of Law.

Arguments about the laws could be rooted in key clauses of the U.S. Constitution that could contradict each other in this case. One clause requires states to respect the laws of other states while another recognizes the right to travel among states and a third restricts the ability of states to impair interstate commerce.

Legal experts say that no prior cases are exactly comparable, though state laws have conflicted in weighty ways in the past.

In the 1840s and 1850s, it was with questions over whether fugitive enslaved people in free states remained the property of slaveholders. In the 1857 Dred Scott decision, frequently cited as the worst ruling in U.S. history, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that they did.

More recently, before the nation's top court recognized a right to same-sex marriage in 2015, state marriage laws were a patchwork. Some states did not recognize marriages that were legal elsewhere, and all the protections that go with them, including hospital visitation rights and

even the ability to divorce. The federal ruling largely resolved those legal conflicts. The effort to restrict abortion in far-reaching ways is an outgrowth of last year's U.S. Supreme Court decision that overturned Roe v. Wade and ended a nationwide right to abortion. Each state now makes its own rules. Abortion is banned in all stages of pregnancy in 13 states. Another five have similar bans on the books but are not being enforced under judge's orders as legal challenges to them are sorted out.

Texas took a step toward state-border restrictions even before Roe was overturned with a 2021 law that allows civil lawsuits against a person who "aids or abets the performance or inducement of abortion." It does not specify whether the aid would have to happen within Texas. Oklahoma has a similar law.

But using them to block out-of-state abortions has not been tried yet — or tested in court.

Other states are pursuing different approaches.

Idaho's measure bans transporting a minor for an abortion without parental consent — but bars only the part of the journey that takes place in Idaho.

Tennessee's GOP-dominated legislature last week



People march through downtown Amarillo to protest a lawsuit to ban the abortion drug mifepristone Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, in Amarillo, Texas.

Associated Press

approved a measure that would prohibit cities and counties from using their funds to help someone obtain an abortion outside the state — including banning coverage of out-of-state abortions under government employee health insurance plans.

In his concurring opinion in last year's ruling overturning Roe, Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh contemplated whether states could restrict their residents from getting abortions in other states: "In my view, the answer is no based on the constitutional right to interstate travel," he wrote. Andrea Miller, president of the National Institute for Reproductive Health, which supports abortion rights, said the validity of interstate laws is unclear.

"The hope would be this would be seen as an extreme overreach," she said, "but one would have thought that overturning Roe v. Wade would have been an extreme overreach too."

Elisabeth Smith, state policy director for the Center for Reproductive Rights, said the measures have impacts even if they don't hold up in court.

"Will anti-abortion activists continue to try to use these techniques and use these avenues?" he asked. "Absolutely. Their goal in doing so is to try to chill activity and make those of us who support abortion rights too frightened to help people." One possible test of the out-of-state applicability of abortion laws is just getting started in Texas. □

Brennan named new director for National Hurricane Center



Mike Brennan, then-branch chief at the National Hurricane Center, gives an update on Hurricane Harvey as it moves toward the Texas coast, Aug. 25, 2017, in Miami.

Associated Press

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**
AP Science Writer

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-

tion named Mike Brennan, who was supervising hurricane forecasters during one of the busiest times

for storms hitting America, as the new director of the National Hurricane Center in Miami. Brennan, who started Monday, had been branch chief since 2018 for the center's hurricane specialist unit, which writes warnings and forecasts for the public. He spent 2022 as the center's acting deputy director. During those last five years, 18 hurricanes have hit the United States, eight of them major.

Brennan, 45, started at the hurricane center in 2008 as a hurricane specialist and got his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees from North Carolina State University. "The NHC direc-

tor is one of the most visible and important jobs in the nation, and Mike possesses the right combination of experience, leadership and personal traits to prepare and guide us through major storms," NOAA chief Rick Spinrad said.

Hurricane center chiefs not only warn the public about upcoming storms, but coordinate work with emergency managers and the public to prepare for a hurricane hitting the coast.

University of Albany atmospheric sciences professor and hurricane expert Kristen Corbosiero said Brennan keeps up with the science, is an associate editor

of a meteorology journal, and is well-liked.

"Mike is a fantastic choice to lead NHC," she said. "I think he'll do a great job interfacing with the public and our political leaders, incorporating the latest science and forecasting knowledge into his briefings."

The hurricane center job became vacant when Ken Graham took over last June as director of the National Weather Service. Jamie Rhome, who was acting director last year, returns to his former job as deputy director, NOAA said.

Hurricane season starts June 1. □

Louisville bank employee livestreamed attack that killed 4

By **DYLAN LOVAN and CLAIRE GALOFARO**
Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A Louisville bank employee armed with a rifle opened fire at his workplace Monday morning, killing four people — including a close friend of Kentucky's governor — while livestreaming the attack, authorities said. Police arrived as shots were still being fired inside Old National Bank and killed the shooter in an exchange of gunfire, Louisville Metro Police Department Chief Jacquelyn Gwinn-Villaroel said. The city's mayor, Craig Greenberg, called the attack "an evil act of targeted violence."

The shooting, the 15th mass killing in the country this year, comes just two weeks after a former student killed three children and three adults at a Christian elementary school in Nashville, Tennessee, about 160 miles (260 kilometers) to the south. That state's governor and his wife also had friends killed in that shooting. In Louisville, the chief identified the shooter as 23-year-old Connor Sturgeon, who she said was livestreaming during the attack.

"That's tragic to know that that incident was out there and captured," she said. Meta, the company that owns Facebook and Instagram, said in a statement that it had "quickly



Multiple agencies arrive at a building after a shooting took place in Louisville, Ky., Monday, April 10, 2023.

removed the livestream of this tragic incident this morning."

Nine people, including two police officers, were treated for injuries from the shooting, University of Louisville Hospital spokeswoman Heather Fountaine said in an email. One of the officers, 26-year-old Nickolas Wilt, graduated from the police academy on March 31. He was in critical condition after being shot in the head and having surgery, the police chief said. At least three patients had been discharged.

Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear said he lost one of his closest friends in the shooting — Tommy Elliott — in the building not far from the minor league ballpark

Louisville Slugger Field and Waterfront Park.

"Tommy Elliott helped me build my law career, helped me become governor, gave me advice on being a good dad," said Beshear, his voice shaking with emotion. "He's one of the people I talked to most in the world, and very rarely were we talking about my job. He was an incredible friend."

Also killed in the shooting were Josh Barrick, Jim Tutt and Juliana Farmer, police said.

"These are irreplaceable, amazing individuals that a terrible act of violence tore from all of us," the governor said.

It was the second time that Beshear was personally

touched by a mass tragedy since becoming governor.

In late 2021, one of the towns devastated by tornadoes that tore through Kentucky was Dawson Springs, the hometown of Beshear's father, former two-term Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear. Andy Beshear frequently visited Dawson Springs as a boy and has talked emotionally about his father's hometown.

Beshear spoke as the investigation in Louisville continued and police searched for a motive. Crime scene investigators could be seen marking and photographing numerous bullet holes in the windows near the bank's front door.

As part of the investigation, police descended on the

Associated Press

neighborhood where the suspect lived, about 5 miles (8 kilometers) south of the downtown shooting. The street was blocked as federal and local officers talked to residents. One home was cordoned off with caution tape. Kami Cooper, who lives in the neighborhood, said she didn't recall ever meeting the suspect but said it's an unnerving feeling to have lived on the same street as someone who could do such a thing. "I'm almost speechless. You see it on the news but not at home," Cooper said. "It's unbelievable, it could happen here, somebody on my street."

A man who fled the building during the shooting told WHAS-TV that the shooter opened fire with a long rifle in a conference room in the back of the building's first floor.

"Whoever was next to me got shot — blood is on me from it," he told the news station, pointing to his shirt. He said he fled to a break room and shut the door. Deputy Police Chief Paul Humphrey said the actions of responding police officers undoubtedly saved lives.

"This is a tragic event," he said. "But it was the heroic response of officers that made sure that no more people were more seriously injured than what happened." □



Members of the New York Senate work on legislative bills in the Senate Chamber before Gov. Kathy Hochul presents her executive state budget at the state Capitol on Feb. 1, 2023, in Albany, N.Y.

Associated Press

By **MAYSOON KHAN**
Associated Press/Report for America

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — New

York state lawmakers passed another weeklong extension for the state's budget Monday to ensure

N.Y. state budget delayed again amid talks on bail, housing

state operations run uninterrupted and workers get paid as budget negotiations continue.

State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli highlighted the need for lawmakers to push the deadline yet again when he sent a letter to Gov. Kathy Hochul on Friday urging her to take action to ensure 83,000 state workers get paid in time for the next payroll cycle.

State lawmakers will not be paid themselves until a budget is passed, DiNapoli's office said, and it is not clear how long it'll

take Democratic legislative leaders to reach an agreement. The legislators missed the original April 1 deadline for adopting a state budget because of disagreements over the governor's proposals to change bail rules and create new housing. There has been "zero movement in discussions" on any other issues besides bail and housing in a state budget that is now more than a week late, state Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie told reporters on Monday. "I don't believe that we should be doing policy

on budgets, I've been very clear on that," Heastie said. Hochul, a Democrat, said Saturday during an Easter celebration that although it will take additional time to solidify a final budget, she's "confident" that progress is being made.

With a second extension, the Legislature would have through April 17 to either pass a budget or extend the process again.

Senate Republican Leader Rob Ort called disagreements among the Democratic leaders "a sticking point." □

In mass rally, Israeli settlers march to West Bank outpost

By ILAN BEN ZION

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Thousands of Israelis led by at least seven Cabinet ministers marched Monday to an evacuated West Bank settlement, in a defiant signal that Israel's most right-wing government in history is determined to accelerate settlement building on occupied lands despite international opposition.

The mass rally also threatened to further raise tensions that have been heightened by days of unrest across the region over a contested Jerusalem holy site. In new violence, Israeli troops killed a 15-year-old Palestinian boy during an arrest raid in the occupied West Bank, while a 48-year-old Israeli woman died of wounds sustained in an attack last week that killed two of her daughters.

Monday's march took place in the northern West Bank — the scene of repeated violence in recent months. Thousands of Israeli police and army forces were reportedly deployed to secure the march, which added to the already combustible atmosphere that has accompanied the overlap of major Jewish and Muslim holy days. Tensions between Israelis and Palestinians have reached a fever pitch in recent weeks surrounding the Jerusalem shrine.

The march to Eviatar, an unauthorized settlement outpost in the northern West Bank that was evacuated by the previous Israeli government in 2021, was being led by hard-line ultra-nationalist Jewish settlers.

Daniella Weiss, another settler leader, told Kan public radio that the ministers' participation in the march could be a "therapy for the government to free yourselves from the dictates of the U.S. and Europe" concerning West Bank settlement.

Several members of his Cabinet, including Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich and National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir — both West Bank settlers — and at least 20 members of the



National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir greets people at the outpost of Eviatar in the West Bank, Monday, April 10, 2023.

Knesset were taking part in the march.

Speaking at the march, Ben-Gvir said "we are here to say that the Israeli nation is strong" and that "we are here and will remain here." Monday's march appeared to be aimed in part at shoring up support for Israeli hard-liners like Ben-Gvir.

Recent polls have shown a sharp drop in support for the new hard-line government in the wake of months of violence, including growing dissatisfaction among people who voted for it.

A poll on Channel 13 TV found that 60% of respondents said they do not trust the government to deal with the current wave of violence, compared to 27% who do trust it. The poll questioned 699 people and had a margin of error of 3.7 percentage points.

Visits to Eviatar have been officially banned by the military since its evacuation, but that prohibition has been loosely enforced in recent months. Israeli army spokesman Lt. Col. Richard Hecht said the military approved Monday's march, saying it would be "highly monitored and highly protected."

Scores of families, nearly all of them Orthodox Jews, many of them pushing baby strollers, took part in

the march. At the outpost, inflatable slides were set up for children to jump and play on.

The march passed without major violence, though Israeli troops fired tear gas at Palestinians in the nearby village of Beita who hurled stones toward soldiers to protest the march. The Palestinian Red Crescent medical service said two people, including a journalist, were shot by Israeli rubber bullets, while 115 people suffered from tear gas inhalation. A video circulated on social media showed a tear gas canister landing next to a Palestinian journalist as he delivered a TV report.

Tensions between Israel and the Palestinians have soared following last week's police raid on Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque compound during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

The hilltop compound where the mosque sits is the emotional ground zero of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. For Jews, it is known as the Temple Mount, their faith's holiest site and the place where two Temples stood in antiquity. For Muslims, it is known as the Noble Sanctuary, home of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, the third holiest site in Islam.

Dozens of Jewish visitors entered the site on Monday escorted by Israeli police

for a second consecutive day. These tours by religious and nationalist Jews have increased in size and frequency in recent years, raising fears by Palestinians that Israel may partition the site. Israel insists it has no intention of changing a long-standing arrangement that permits Jewish visits, but not worship, at the Muslim-administered shrine.

Last week, Palestinians barricaded themselves inside Al-Aqsa with stones and firecrackers, demanding the right to pray there overnight, something Israel has in the past only allowed during the last 10 days of Ramadan. Police removed them by force, detaining hundreds and leaving dozens injured.

The violence was followed by rocket fire by Palestinian militants from the Gaza Strip, southern Lebanon, and Syria starting Wednesday, and Israeli airstrikes targeting those areas.

Recent days have also seen Palestinian attacks that killed two British-Israeli sisters and an Italian tourist. On Monday, Israel's Hadasah hospital announced the death of Lucy Dee, the mother of the two sisters. Lucy Dee, who was traveling with her daughters, had been hospitalized in critical condition since Friday's shooting in the West Bank. □

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When exactly will India surpass China as most populous?



Indian commuters leave at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj train terminus in Mumbai, India, Monday, Nov. 14, 2022.

By **MIKE SCHNEIDER and SIBI ARASU**
Associated Press

India will surpass China's population this month. Or maybe in July. Or, perhaps it's happened already? Demographers are unsure exactly when India will take the title as the most populous nation in the world because they're relying on estimates to make their best guess. But they know it's going to happen soon, if it hasn't occurred by now. China has had the most people in the world since at least 1950, the year United Nations population data began. Both China and India have more than 1.4 billion people, and combined they make up more than a third of the world's 8 billion people.

"Actually, there is no way we can know exactly when India will surpass China," said Bruno Schoumaker, a demographer at Université catholique de Louvain in Belgium. "There is some uncertainty, not only about India's population, but also China's population."

STILL, WHEN IS IT HAPPENING?

Mathematical calculations from a range of surveys, as well as birth and death records, project that India will overtake China sometime in the middle of April. But demographers warn that

it should be taken with a grain of salt since the numbers are fuzzy and could be revised.

"It's a crude approximation, a best guess," said Patrick Gerland, chief of the population estimates and projections section at the U.N. in New York.

Not long ago, India wasn't expected to become most populous until later this decade. But the timing has been sped up by a drop in China's fertility rate, with families having fewer children.

HOW IS IT CALCULATED?

Demographers at the U.N. Population Division make estimates based on projections from a wide variety of data sources to get what they believe are the most up-to-date demographic numbers. The last update to the data used for these calculations for both India and China was July 2022, said Sara Hertog, a U.N. population affairs officer in New York.

The demographers then use a statistical technique to infer when India's population has surpassed that of China, according to Stuart Gietel-Basten, a professor at Khalifa University of Science and Technology in Abu Dhabi.

"The reality, of course, is that these estimates are just that," Gietel-Basten

said. "But at least they are based on a relatively solid and consistent methodology."

WHERE DO THE NUMBERS COME FROM?

The foundations of both nations' numbers are censuses, or head counts, conducted every decade.

China's last census was in 2020. Demographers used birth and death records, along with other administrative data, to calculate how the population has grown since then.

India's last census was in 2011. Its scheduled 2021 census was postponed by COVID-19. Without an actual door-to-door count for more than a decade, sample surveys have filled in the gaps to help demographers and India itself understand its population, said Alok Vajpeyi of the New Delhi-based non-government organization, Population Foundation of India. Among the most important is the Sample Registration System, India's large-scale demographic survey that gathers data on such things as births, deaths, fertility and more.

Andrea Wojnar, the United Nations Population Fund's representative for India, said the agency is confident in the survey's numbers "because it uses a very robust methodology." □

Associated Press



Ukrainian soldiers ride atop an APC in the heaviest battles with the Russian invaders in Bakhmut, Donetsk region, Ukraine, Sunday, April 9, 2023.

Associated Press

Ukraine, Russia send home around 200 troops in prisoner swap

By **HANNA ARHIROVA**
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — More than 200 Russian and Ukrainian soldiers have returned home in a prisoner swap, the warring countries said Monday.

Russia's Defense Ministry said 106 Russian soldiers were released from Ukrainian custody as part of an agreement with Ukraine.

Andriy Yermak, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's chief of staff, said that Russia freed 100 Ukrainian prisoners. Neither announcement mentioned whether any intermediaries were involved in the agreement.

Some of the Ukrainian soldiers have severe injuries and illnesses, Yermak said in a statement published on Telegram.

He added that the latest of the sporadic prisoner swaps in the war that started in February 2022 was "not an easy one." He did not elaborate.

Ukraine's Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War alleged that almost half of the 80 men and 20 women soldiers who returned home "have serious injuries, illnesses or have been tortured." It presented no evidence for its claims.

According to Ukrainian news reports, one of the women prisoners is Valeriia Karpilenko, a border guard who had helped defend Mariupol's Azovstal steel

plant. Last May, she married a Ukrainian soldier in the steel plant's basement while Russian forces surrounded the complex. Her husband was killed three days later.

The freed Russians were being flown on military transport planes to Moscow for medical treatment and rehabilitation, the Defense Ministry said.

Such exchanges represent one of the few areas of cooperation between Ukraine and Russia. The two sides have returned hundreds of each other's soldiers, as well as the bodies of fallen troops, since the war began.

Meanwhile, Ukraine's presidential office said at least six civilians were wounded in the latest Russian shelling.

Separately, Donetsk Gov. Pavlo Kyrlyenko said Russian forces struck a power plant and residential buildings in the eastern province. The Russians also shelled nine border villages in the provinces of Kharkiv, Sumy and Chernihiv.

Ukraine's Deputy Prime Minister Iryna Vereshchuk said in televised remarks that the country has nearly seven million internally displaced people, including about one million children. Most of them have abandoned their homes in the east and the south to move to safer locations in central and western Ukraine. □



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Aruba Dominates the First Annual ABC Beach Tennis Cup



(Oranjestad)—Aruba's beach tennis players have once again proven their dominance in the sport by winning multiple categories at the first annual ABC Beach Tennis Cup, which includes players from Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao. Beach Tennis Bonaire as part of the Bonaire International Sports Week organized the tournament from March 31 to April 2, and Aruba came with 22 athletes participating in several categories.

María Buuts and Eugemine Ignacio won the Open Women's category (highest level of play), while Wayne Tromp and Jelle Groenendijk won the Open Men's category (highest level of play). Paola Ordoñez and Valery Karsten won the Advanced Women's category, while Joke Hertogen and Jenna El Oualkadi were runners-up. Young talents, Thyshawn Dammers and Sebastian Dominguez, took home the Advanced Men's category.

Marc Kiezebrink of Beach Tennis Aruba commented, "We are incredibly proud of our players for their achievements at the ABC Beach Tennis Cup. Their success is a testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved in the sport in Aruba. Beach tennis is becoming increasingly popular in the world and in the ABC Islands, and we are thrilled to see our players leading the way in the ABC islands."

The continuous development of beach tennis is necessary for its growth and success. Aruba is committed to working collaboratively with neighboring islands to organize more tournaments and events to support and promote the sport of beach tennis.

For more information about Beach Tennis Aruba, please visit www.beachtennisaruba.com.



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LOCAL



Over a decade in business, Aruba Living Today: Offering the so much needed human touch



NOORD — We are in 2023. It was a wild ride with Covid-19 and we all are aiming for a change of routine. We simply want to “live” life again. “It is time for living your dream,” as the quote says at Aruba Living Today’s office. “We are fifteen plus years in business, and I am proud to say that all our clients stuck with us. We are no part of a big company, we keep it small, personal, and real. Because you are not a number, no sales target either and certainly your name is not commission. Our responsibility is to make your dream come true,” says owner Randolph Arends.

From human to human

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This different approach to real estate is what sets Aruba Living Today apart, and the reason Randolph calls himself a property mediator instead of a real estate broker. “The personal

touch is essential to me. I am stepping aside of the image that real estate brokers are only in for the commission. This image does not fit me at all, I am in for my passion, and I can only do this from the heart.”

One stop shopping point

Services offered by Aruba Living Today are House and Land Sales, Rentals, Investments, Property Management, Vacation Rental, Mortgages, Insurances, Maintenance, Assist in Arrangements for Notary and Utilities, Guiding Bureaucracy Process and Assisting in Import of Furniture. Randolph and his business partner Eladio Max Maduro. Born in Aruba, he was raised in the Netherlands. Max was Corporal mandatory in the Dutch Army/Genie der Landmacht.

He also studied financial administration in the Netherlands, and has a degree in Dutch insurance law. Max has 40 years work experience in all kind of insurance, specialized liability and pension law. In the past, he worked for local and international insurance brokers companies.



As per March 1st 2023, he is working as a commercial partner at Aruba Living Today.

You are welcome to meet in person

Aruba Living Today houses in an authentic Aruban house, welcoming you in a warm ambiance that emphasizes the philosophy of connecting. Candles, Buddha ornaments and a homey setting form the décor for you to sit and talk about your dream house or investment. “My goal was to do real estate in a different way when I established this company June 1st 2009. Not from the perspective of only selling, but to look for the perfect match between dream house and client. My philosophy is: it will only work when all involved are happy and connected by that personal touch.”

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Aruba Living Today is featured on House Hunters, social media, Aruba Living Today and of course in Aruba Today’s newspaper. □

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Leatherback Sea Turtle Season has started

The Leatherback Sea Turtles nesting in Aruba don't live in the Caribbean, but in the Northern part of the Atlantic Ocean, as far as Nova Scotia, Canada.

But they are born on Aruba's beaches. After 20 – 30 years they reach maturity and then return to their natal beach to nest during the turtle nesting season (March – July). It is very impressive to see a huge sea turtle coming ashore, enjoy the sight, but make sure that the turtle does not see you! Stay out of her sight at a distance of at least 10 meters. The picture was taken at Eagle Beach, last Sunday early morning. Normally sea turtle females will nest at night

All species of sea turtles are endangered and need our protection.

What you can do to protect sea turtles:

Lights out for sea turtles. Nighttime activities and artificial lighting may deter adult females from nesting. So PLEASE keep all lights off, including flashlights, flash photography and video equipment. "Sea turtles dig the dark"

Ask your hotel manager to turn off or minimize the lights that are visible on the beach in front of the resort. Close the curtains of your room at night to prevent light shining on the beach.

Do not drive on beaches.

Not all turtle nests on all the beaches around Aruba are



marked. Vehicles (4x4, quads) can crush the eggs and will compact the sand. Driving on a beach is not good for the condition of the sand (and for our own condition it is better to walk!)

Do not litter.

Do not leave any plastic cups, straws, bags, balloons on the beach. The wind will blow it into the sea. A floating plastic bag is easily mistaken for a jellyfish, the Leatherback Sea Turtle's favorite food.

Remove obstacles from the beach.

Obstacles as beach furniture or recreational equipment may cause nesting females to abort their nesting attempt or may even trap them. So don't leave any beach chairs at night unattended close to the sea but make a stack as far as possible away from the water.

Do not disturb a nesting sea turtle.

Do not attempt to touch the turtle but stay at a re-

spectful distance (at least 10 meters). Do allow the

turtle to complete the full nesting process (about two hours) and don't be in her way when she returns to the sea.

Do call Turtugaruba (24-hour Turtle Hotline: (297) 5929393. Follow Turtugaruba at www.facebook.com/Turtugaruba.

If you witness a sea turtle, or if you see turtle crawl marks, during a late evening or early morning stroll on the beach please do call Turtugaruba. Thanks a lot! ☐



Aruba Today is delighted to share with its readers a new segment called "Beauty & the Beach" where we take a minute to honor our guests who have decided to spend their vacation on our beautiful and warm island.

In this edition, we'd like to give a shout out to **Jules and David Small from Michigan, U.S.A.**, who say they have been visiting Aruba since 1987 and are always happy to be around such amazing people where happiness and kindness are in abundance, and the Aruban breeze! Aruba is always proud to host all families and guests. We at Aruba Today encourage any visitor of the island to send in their pictures and/or messages; who knows? You might get on the cover!

This segment is sponsored by Alhambra Casino and Shops.

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Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Caribbean Palm Village Resort

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently recognized the Emerald Ambassadors of Aruba. Presenting the Ambassadors with the Emerald certification as a token of appreciation.

The Emerald certification is granted to ambassadors to recognize, the loyalty, friendships, and visits to Aruba throughout so many years. Emerald Honorees have been choosing Aruba as their preferred vacation destination for more than 35 years consecutively.

The Honoring certification program has three levels, which are divided according to the number of consecutive years visiting the island.

Honoring Levels:

- Distinguished Ambassadors: 10> years
- Goodwill Ambassadors: 20> years
- Emerald Ambassadors: 35> years

Honoree was:

Eileen Besancon & Jerry Bisson residents of Massachu-

setts, United States

Ms. Olga Ruiz representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and members of Caribbean Palm Village Resort bestowed the certification of the Emerald Ambassadors. The honoree was presented the Emerald Ambassador Certificate and some memorable gifts.

On behalf of the Government of Aruba, we would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Bisson & Mrs. Besacon for making Aruba their preferred vacation destination for so many years. We are so thankful to have had such wonderful visitor all these years! Aruba is unquestionably their home away from home!

- Top reason for returning to Aruba, provided by the honoree was:
- The friendly people
 - Perfect weather
 - Great restaurants
 - The Restaurants
 - Not expensive
 - Home away from home



Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Del Rey Apartments



The Aruba Tourism Authority recently recognized the recognized Distinguished Ambassadors of Aruba. Presenting the Ambassadors with the Distinguished certification as a token of appreciation.

The honoring certification program is granted to ambassadors, to recognize, the loyalty, friendships, and visits to Aruba. For consecutively choosing Aruba as their preferred vacation destination each year. The Honoring certification program has three levels, which are divided according to the number of consecutive years visiting the island.

Honoring Levels:

- Distinguished Ambassadors: 10> years
- Goodwill Ambassadors: 20> years
- Emerald Ambassadors: 35> years

Honorees were:

Distinguished Ambassadors 10> years: Tomas Åhman & Jörgen Viklund residents of Östersund, Sweden.

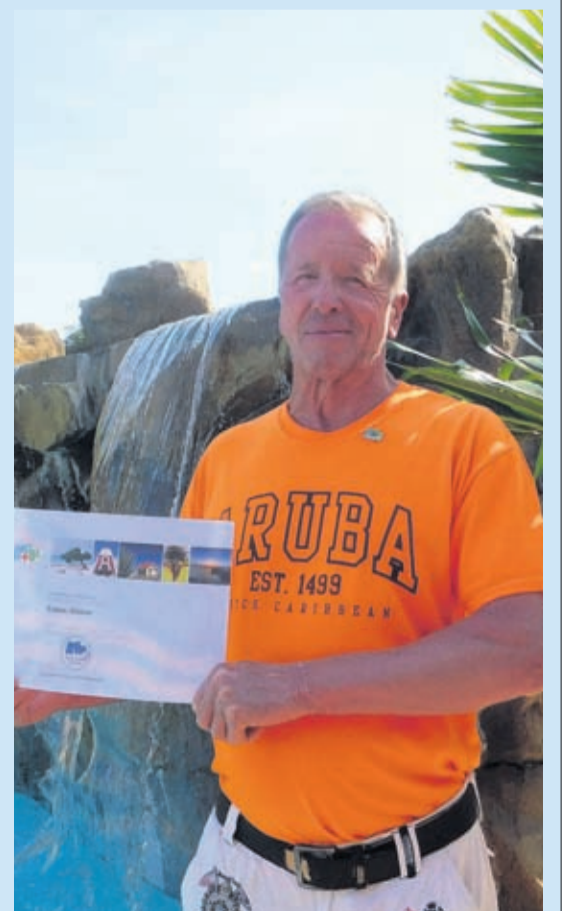
Ms. Olga Ruiz representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and members of Del Rey Apartments bestowed the certification of the Ambassador. The honoree was presented with the Distinguished Certification, and with memorable gifts of Aruba.

On behalf of the Government of Aruba, we would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Åhman & Mr. Viklund for making Aruba their preferred vacation destination for so many years. We are so thankful to have had you as

our visitors after all these years! Aruba is unquestionably your home away from home!

Top 5 reason for returning to Aruba, provided by the honorees were:

- Mr. Åhman & Mr. Viklund reasons:
- Beaches
 - Weather
 - Del Rey apartments
 - Atmosphere
 - The people/ locals.



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by Urvin Croes

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Easter on Aruba: A tradition of camping



ORANJESTAD—You may notice during the first week of April that there are a lot of trailers and tents parked right on the outskirts of beaches around the island. This is a long-standing tradition during Easter weekend, where families and friends gather in large groups and set up camp at the beach.

Camping week in Aruba stretches from April 2nd to April 16th and may be nothing like what you're used to seeing. Though groups do sleep in tents and spend the entire week at their campsite, most sites have extra facilities. These facilities include trailer-kitchens and portable toilets, making camping much more comfortable—and perhaps even more luxurious.

Though camping in itself is a general custom on the island, each family/group may have their own set

of traditions and routines when they go camping, like the Ras family from Paradera.

Before setting up camp, planning starts with procuring (legal) documents. These include camping permits given by the Police Corps (KPA) and contracts for toilet rentals. Do note that camping permits are especially important, because the police are bound to patrol the camping areas during the week. After obtaining a permit, groups assemble to look for and hold a spot at the beach. This is why you may notice some chairs, traffic cones or even ropes stretching across the beaches on Saturday or Sunday before camping week.

Next on the list is planning the menu. The Ras family usually plans hot dogs and burgers for Thursday, and fish for Good Friday. Other

than that, soup is a must, chicken and rice (Arroz con pollo) is an Aruban favorite, and for the kids, snacks like pastechi (meat pies), kroket (croquettes), cheese balls, and deviled eggs are necessary to keep them full and energized while they play all day in the blazing sun. When camping with extended family or friends, usually everyone pitches in with food and drinks. As the Ras family matriarch said: "There always someone in the kitchen cooking something up."

In terms of camp activities, these can also vary from group to group, but one activity you will not miss anywhere is dominos. Usually, every camp site has one or two domino tables ready for use, where the men usually gather and play for hours. Other than that, both children and adults play 'Mens Erger Je Niet' (Ludo), Bingo and



other board games, or go fishing with lines and nets. On Easter Sunday, the main activity for everyone, and especially the children, is egg hunting.

The Ras family matriarch told our reporter the children traditionally decorate their own eggs before these are hidden around the camping site. They make sure to boil these eggs first, so that no messy accidents happen when painting these. After the kids find their eggs, they are usually cracked open and eaten. But the fun of egg hunting is not exclusive to children; adults may also participate too. For this, the Ras family

sometimes hid golden eggs around the area, each holding big prizes, like a bottle of wine, money etc.

Besides this, families may celebrate Easter weekend by walking the "Caminda di Cruz" (Sorrowful Way or Via Dolorosa) to the Alto Vista Chapel located in the northern part of the island or by going to the 3 o'clock church sermon. Some groups that do not go to church but still want to pay respect on Good Friday may hold a moment of silence when the clock strikes 3pm.

And after two weeks of camping, this tradition comes to a close for the rest of the year. Groups deconstruct their sites and leave the beach premises, excited for next Easter, where they can set up camp again and enjoy the feeling of community on the beaches of Aruba.

As said before, camping during Easter vacation is a long-standing tradition for the community of Aruba. This is something that almost everyone on the island grew up with, and it remains a special occasion that feels authentic and our own! □



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Tokyo's nation
- 6 Houston player
- 11 Find darling
- 12 "Over There!" writer
- 13 Bette Davis film
- 15 CPR expert
- 16 Star pitcher
- 17 Writer Stout
- 18 Skilled
- 20 City square
- 23 Western resort lake
- 27 Compass point
- 28 Solitary
- 29 Church areas
- 31 Star in Orion
- 32 Winter quaff
- 34 Atlas page
- 37 Unruly group
- 38 London weather
- 41 Bette Davis film
- 44 Shoplifted
- 45 Work byproduct
- 46 Castle part
- 47 Bridge costs

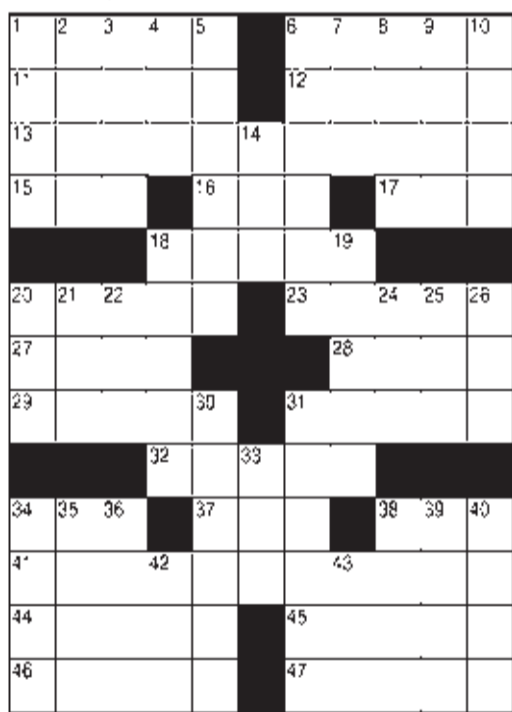
DOWN

- 1 Green stone
- 2 First person
- 3 Cruise stop
- 4 Bible vessel
- 5 Utah neighbor
- 6 Agree to
- 7 Lush
- 8 Role for Chris Hems-worth
- 9 Quite un-common
- 10 Cameo stone
- 14 Bar rocks
- 18 Ancient Mexican
- 19 Shire of "Rocky"



Thursday's answer

- 20 Stew sphere
- 21 Trip around a track
- 22 Cart puller
- 24 Sty resident
- 25 Low bill
- 26 Sushi choice
- 30 Grave
- 31 Hearty
- 33 Pigeon sound
- 34 Schooner pole
- 35 Singing voice
- 36 Work the fields
- 38 Sense
- 39 Egg outline
- 40 Under-stands
- 42 Bar order
- 43 Binary base



A X Y D I B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-11

CRYPTOQUOTE

P W C F V O O W Y A N C Y G D A G

Z A D L A Y S W X S N A O N W S O

P W C G W Y ' S S R E A L . — U R P Y A

H D A S J E P

Thursday's Cryptoquote: FOCUS MORE ON YOUR DESIRE THAN ON YOUR DOUBT, AND THE DREAM WILL TAKE CARE OF ITSELF. MARK TWAIN

AP sources: EPA car rule to push huge increase in EV sales



An International Electric MV Series truck is seen on display in Austin, Texas, Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023.

Associated Press

By TOM KRISHER and MATTHEW DALY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Biden administration will propose strict new automobile pollution limits this week that would require at least 54% of new vehicles sold in the U.S. to be electric by 2030 and as many as two of every three by 2032, according to industry and environmental officials briefed on the plan. The proposed regulation, to be released Wednesday by the Environmental Protection Agency, would set greenhouse gas emissions limits for the 2027 through 2032 model years for passenger vehicles that would be more even stricter than goals the auto industry agreed to in 2021. The EPA will offer a range of options that the agency can select after a public comment period, the officials said. They asked not to be identified because the proposal hasn't been made public. The proposed regulation isn't expected to become final until next year. Environmental groups are applauding the ambitious

numbers, which were first reported over the weekend by The New York Times. But the plan is likely to get strong pushback from the auto industry, which already pledged in August 2021 to make EVs half of U.S. new car sales by 2030 as it moves toward a history-making transition away from internal combustion engines. Even the low end of the EPA's 2030 range is 4 percentage points higher than the 2021 goal, which came after strong pressure from President Joe Biden. An executive order signed by Biden set a target for half of all new vehicles sold in 2030 to be zero-emissions vehicles, including battery electric, plug-in hybrid electric or fuel cell electric vehicles. Biden also wants automakers to raise gas mileage and cut tailpipe pollution between now and model year 2026. That would mark a significant step toward meeting his pledge to cut America's planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030 as he pushes a once-almost-unthinkable shift from gasoline-pow-

ered engines to battery-powered vehicles. With electric vehicles accounting for just 7.2% of U.S. vehicle sales in the first quarter of this year, the industry has a long way to go to even approach the administration's targets. However, the percentage of EV sales is growing. Last year it was 5.8% of new vehicles sales. □

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The anime hit 'Suzume' and Shinkai's cinema of cataclysm

By **JAKE COYLE**

AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Makoto Shinkai was never the same filmmaker after the 2011 earthquake struck Japan. When the tsunami and quake ravaged the Tōhoku region of northern Japan and prompted a nuclear meltdown, Shinkai, a now 50-year-old director and animator of some of the most popular anime features in the world, could feel his sense of storytelling crumbling.

"The shock to me was that the daily life that we had become accustomed to in Japan can suddenly be severed without any warning whatsoever," says Shinkai. "I had this odd, foreboding feeling that that could happen again and again. I began to think about how I wanted to tell stories within this new reality."

The three blockbusters that have followed by Shinkai — "Your Name," "Weathering With You" and the new release "Suzume" — have each tethered hugely emotional tales to ecological disaster. In "Your Name," a meteor threatens to demolish a village, an event that dovetails with a body-switching romance. In "Weathering With You," a runaway teenage boy befriends a Tokyo girl who can control the weather, spawning fluctuations that mirror climate change.

"Suzume," which opens in U.S. theaters Friday, returns to the earthquake of 2011. Suzume, whose mother perished in the tsunami, years later meets a mysterious young man responsible for racing to close portals — literal doorways that appear around Japan — before they unleash a giant, earthquake-causing worm. "With these three films, I didn't set out to make a disaster movie. I wanted to tell a love story, a romance, a coming-of-age of an adolescent girl," Shinkai said on a recent trip to New York, speaking through an interpreter. "As I continued to make the plot, this idea of disaster kept creeping in. Suddenly, I felt surrounded



Makoto Shinkai poses for a portrait to promote the film "Suzume" on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 in New York.

Associated Press

in my daily life by disaster. It's like a door that keeps opening."

Shinkai has emerged as one of cinema's most imaginative filmmakers of contemporary cataclysm. His movies aren't just about surviving apocalypse, though, but living with its omnipresent threat. And it's made him one of the biggest box-office draws in movies.

After it was released in 2016, "Your Name" became the then-best-selling anime of all time, dethroning Hayao Miyazaki's beloved "Spirited Away" with nearly \$400 million in ticket sales. "Weathering With You" made nearly \$200 million. Before opening in North America, "Suzume" has already crossed \$200 million, including \$100 million in Japan and nearly the biggest international release of the year so far in China, more than doubling the sales of "Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania." Much of that success is owed to Shinkai's earnest grappling with today's ecological upheaval in sprawling epics that are filtered

through everyday life. National trauma mixes with supernatural fantasy. While Japan has been home to many extreme geological events, it's a tension that most in the world can increasingly connect with.

"It can be anything: earthquakes, climate change, the pandemic. Russia and Ukraine, for an example," says Shinkai. "This idea that our daily life will continue to maintain the status quo should be set aside and challenged."

Shinkai, who writes and directs his films, has become convinced that young people shouldn't be pandered to with stories where the natural world is heroically returned to balance, calling such approaches "egotistic and irresponsible." Instead, his disasters take on metaphorical meaning for young protagonists who learn to persist, and find joy, in a world of perpetual danger, shadowed by loss. His latest, which was the first anime in competition at the Berlin Film Festival in two decades, is a road movie where the 17-year-old Suzume (voiced by Nanaoka Hara) travels from the

the southwestern island of Kyushu with that mysterious young man, Souta (Hokuto Matsumura), who happens to get transformed into a three-legged chair while closing a portal.

As a wooden sidekick, Souta recalls a Miyazaki side character like the hopping scarecrow of "Howl's Moving Castle." But Shinkai, who's often been cited as among the heirs to Miyazaki, says his film is no homage. But he grants Miyazaki's influence is so pervasive in Japanese society that it seeps into everything. He imagines Suzume, herself, grew up on his films.

Shinkai liked the symbolism of a chair, something we use every day. His father made him one as a child. While promoting "Suzume," Shinkai has traveled with a chair just like the one in the movie, packing it in a suitcase, bringing it with him on stage and occasionally taking pictures of it at places like Times Square or the Museum of Natural History.

"I've picked very daily items — a door, a chair — that are perhaps relatable to a wide range of audiences," he says. "This sym-

bolism of the door, I think people are able to translate to their own story. We start thinking about: How do we maintain our daily routine?"

Shinkai is known for photo-realistic panoramas of glittering splendor. As much as doorways make up the iconography of "Suzume," the most indelible image is one he uses at the beginning and end of the film. Suzume rides her bike on a steep hill with a sparkling ocean set behind her. The waters below, which to her could signify the tsunami that left her an orphan, are at once gorgeous and perilous.

"In a weird way, I feel that with 'Your Name' and 'Weathering With You' and 'Suzume' that I'm creating this sort of folklore or mythology," Shinkai says. "In mythology or these ancient legends, what they're doing is taking real-life events and transforming it into a story that can relayed to others."

Whether Shinkai will continue on this quest in his next film he doesn't know. It's a blank slate, he says. But he doesn't close the door. □

MLB batting average up 16 points, game time down 31 minutes

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Major League Baseball's new rules designed to speed pace of play and encourage more action seem to be working through the first 1 1/2 weeks of the season. Batting average is up 16 points, stolen bases have spiked 30% and the average game time is down 31 minutes, on track to be the sport's lowest since 1984. Limits on infield shifts, a pitch clock and larger bases were all implemented on opening day after testing in the minors and a dress rehearsal of sorts during this year's big league spring training. "I think they're good for the game," Cleveland Guardians manager Terry Francona said. "The goal was to not have them get in the way of how we play. That doesn't guarantee you're going to win or lose or play well or bad, but just not get in the way."

The league-wide batting average is .249, a rise from .233 during a comparable period at the start of last season, when cold and wet weather likely contributed to a pallid offensive start. Last year's average rose to .243 by year's end, the lowest since 1968.

Right-handed batters have a .253 average, up from .236 at the start of last year, and lefty batting average is .245, up from .228.

Toronto's Matt Chapman, a right-handed batter, leads the major leagues with a .475 average and Miami's Luis Arraez, a lefty who won the AL batting crown with Minnesota last year, is second at .471. Paul Goldschmidt and the St. Louis Cardinals lead all teams with a .294 mark.

Angels two-way star Shohei Ohtani is tied with 15 others for the major league lead with two pitch clock violations — both in the same game, one as a hitter and one as a pitcher. The New York Mets have the most of any team with 10.

Two-thirds of pitch clock penalties have been imposed on pitchers. Clock violations were up slightly

last week compared to opening weekend but averaged less than one per game.

Average time of nine-inning games dropped to 2 hours, 38 minutes from 3:09 in the first 11 days of last year, when the final average was 3:04. The average was unchanged from the first four days and is on track to the lowest since it was 2:35 in 1984.

"I've never experienced anything like this," Colorado Rockies first baseman C.J. Cron said. "So I guess we're still learning but yeah, it seems like there's not much downtime, especially on defense. It feels like there's always action going on."

There have been 125 pitch clock violations in 141 games, an average of 0.89



Texas Rangers' Josh Jung (6) gets set in the batter's box as the pitcher's clock winds down during a baseball game against the Philadelphia Phillies in Arlington, Texas, Saturday, April 1, 2023. Associated Press

per game. The average over the first four days had been 0.82.

Eighty-five violations have been on pitchers (68%), 32 on batters (25.6%) and

four on catchers (3.2%). In addition, there were two violations for batter time-outs and two for pitcher disengagements. "I knew the pitch clock and all that

was going to work," Atlanta Braves manager Brian Snitker said. "I've experienced it before. And too what I think you're seeing is a resurrection of the singles. There's more hits because we're not flooding the sides of the diamond where a lot of these base hits were outs the last few years."

There have not been any shift restriction penalties. Stolen bases have averaged 1.3 per game, up from 1.0, and the success rate increased to 79.6% from 74%.

"I don't know," said Dusty Baker, manager of the World Series champion Houston Astros. "Some years they're offensive years and some years there's pitching years. We've only played a week. It's hard to tell." □



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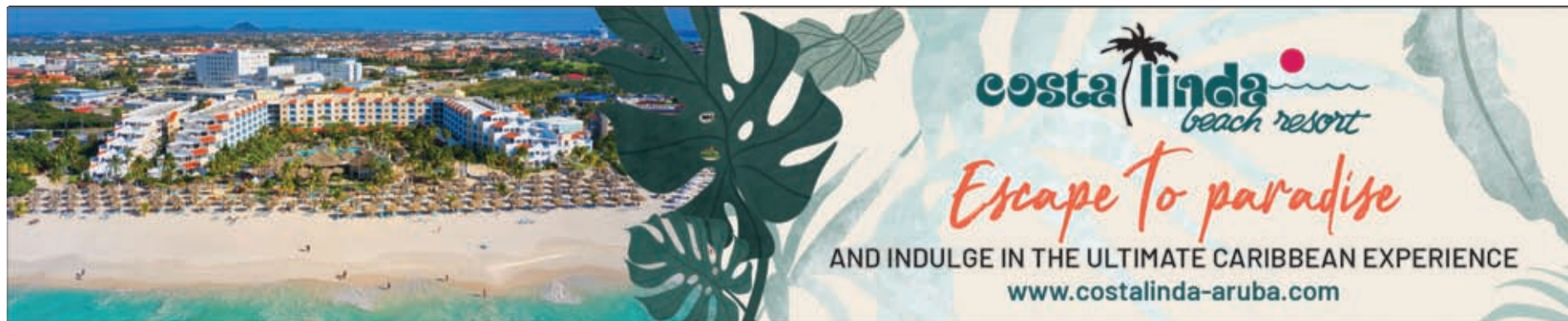
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Jon Rahm a Masters champion everyone saw coming

By **DOUG FERGUSON**
AP Golf Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Jon Rahm is a Masters champion, and he can say he saw this coming based on the message in a fortune cookie from a Chinese fast-food chain nearly 10 years ago. Rahm was starting his sophomore year at Arizona State when he cracked open the fortune that read: "Your talents will be recognized and suitably rewarded." He took to Twitter to share the message with his coach, Tim Mickelson, and wrote, "I am gonna win the masters!"

If only it were that simple. Nothing about this Masters was until the 28-year-old Spaniard lofted a wedge over the bunker to 3 feet for a final par that gave him a four-shot victory over Brooks Koepka and Phil Mickelson, the older brother of his college coach.

From the time he began his second round on Friday, Rahm never had the lead until Koepka began to lose his swing and his putting touch. It took Rahm



Jon Rahm, of Spain, celebrates on the 18th green after winning the Masters golf tournament at Augusta National Golf Club on Sunday, April 9, 2023, in Augusta, Ga.

Associated Press

42 holes before he got his name in front again, and then he seized control with more miscues from Koepka and the brawler mentality to do whatever is needed to win the fight.

It's been that way as long as Rahm has been playing, and everyone knew it.

Phil Mickelson predicted greatness before Rahm turned pro in 2016 and said he felt Rahm was among the top 10 players in the world before the Spaniard had ever won his first

tournament. Bill Haas lost to Rahm in the semifinals of Match Play in 2017 and said later: "He's hungry. He wants more. You can just see it in him. He's got that thing about him that's going to make him a big-time winner out here."

Rahm went back to No. 1 in the world with his Masters victory — adding to his U.S. Open title he won at Torrey Pines two years ago — though even with seven wins worldwide in the last year, it remains a close

race with Scottie Scheffler. What gets so much attention with Rahm is everyone could see this coming, with or without a fortune cookie. Koepka won his first PGA Tour title at the Phoenix Open in 2015, the year Rahm tied for fifth while in his junior year in college.

It took him four starts on the PGA Tour to secure his card. He has won every year since his first full year as a pro, and he now has 20 wins around the world.

Not to be overlooked is a communications degree from Arizona State that he earned in four years after arriving on campus without being able to speak English.

"We put in a lot of effort to try to beat the best guys in the world. So maybe that level of intensity and that determination is what you see and that's why I'm characterized as a fighter," Rahm said. "I wouldn't be able to live with myself if I didn't try my hardest on every shot. So maybe that's where that comes from."

Rahm was as entertaining

at the green jacket presentation as he was on the golf course, mixing in one fun tale about how this Masters started for him.

He has become friends with Arizona Cardinals tight end Zach Ertz, and Rahm was in a cart from the practice range to the putting green ahead of the first round when he saw that Ertz had sent him a text.

"I'm going to paraphrase here. It said, 'That first green is looking like a walk in the park' or something like that right now — 10 minutes before I four-putted to start the tournament," Rahm said. "So, thank you, Zach. Don't ever do that again, please."

It wasn't just the four-putt double bogey from 40 feet (Sam Snead in 1952 is the only other player to start with a double bogey and win the Masters).

Rahm opened with a 65 to tie Koepka, except the Spaniard played in the morning. When he returned to Augusta National on Friday afternoon, storms were on the way. □



Claressa Shields, left, poses for promoter Dmitry Salita at the Downtown Boxing Gym, July 27, 2022, in Detroit.

Associated Press

By **LARRY LAGE**
AP Sports Writer

DETROIT (AP) — The Motor City has landed a big

Shields to fight Gabriels in Detroit at Little Caesars Arena

punch to get back in the fight game.

Claressa Shields will fight Hanna Gabriels for the women's world middleweight championship on June 3, bringing boxing to Little Caesars Arena for the first time since it opened in 2017.

DAZN, which will carry the match live, made the announcement.

Shields, who hails from Flint, Michigan, headlines the card that will include up-and-coming fighters from Michigan.

"Claressa opening up the

building will forever be imbedded in the rich history of Detroit like the Joe Louis fist in downtown," Shields' promoter, Dmitry Salita, said Monday.

"This event will transcend sports because of Claressa, what she represents and accomplished as a young girl from one of the most challenged places in the USA, who believed in herself and made a positive choice every day of her life when she was a kid to be a champion."

Gabriels, who is from Costa Rica, became the only op-

ponent to knock Shields down before losing to her in 2018 at the Masonic Temple in Detroit. Gabriels is 21-2-1 as a professional.

Last October in London at the sold-out O2 Arena, Shields avenged her only career defeat by beating Savannah Marshall with an unanimous decision to become the undisputed women's world middleweight champion.

Shields, a two-time Olympic champion, is 13-0 as a professional and lost to Marshall as an amateur in 2012. □